

Virginia Emergency Operations Center
Hurricane Katrina Impacts
Situation Report #8
Operational Period 0700 Hours September 7, 2005 to 0700 Hours September 8, 2005

SITUATION:

Governor Mark R. Warner declared a limited state of emergency within the Commonwealth on August 31, 2005, directing the Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC) to coordinate state relief efforts in response to Hurricane Katrina. Following an evacuee care meeting with key state agencies and volunteer organizations, Governor Warner announced Virginia is offering to shelter a minimum of 4,000 evacuees. The Governor has requested a Presidential disaster declaration to assist with Virginia's relief effort.

Localities across the Commonwealth are receiving evacuees from Louisiana. The American Red Cross is providing assistance, such as food, clothing, and shelter, to the evacuees. The Governor has asked representatives from state, private and faith-based groups to assess the Commonwealth's capability to receive, house and coordinate services for additional evacuees from the Gulf Coast Region. Efforts are focused on providing one-stop shopping for sheltering, health and various government services at Fort Pickett.

Virginia continues to monitor fuel supply around the Commonwealth.

VEOC STATUS:

- The VEOC is currently in Response Operations

ONGOING STATE ACTIVITIES:

- **VDEM/VEOC**
 - Augmented with additional staffing from DFP, Red Cross and DHS/FEMA
 - Coordinating 58 open requests through Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC). Disseminating EMAC requests to the appropriate State and/or local agencies
 - Currently supporting 5 EMAC missions in Louisiana and 3 in Mississippi
 - Awaiting responses to 24 proposals to respond on EMAC missions
 - Six VDEM Reservists scheduled to deploy for Jackson, Mississippi on September 9. On September 12, they will travel with the members of the Jackson EOC to the Joint Field Office
 - Establishing Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) at Fort Pickett
 - Monitoring Hurricane Nate, Hurricane Maria, and Tropical Storm Ophelia
- **DMME**
 - Some terminals will be receiving deliveries of diesel, conventional gas and reformulated gas throughout the week to replenish their inventories
 - Richmond RFG waiver effective through September 9
- **DOF**
 - Total of 45 personnel assisting with the response (2 crews of 20 plus 5 personnel assisting with specialty roles on IMTs)
 - 9 members of the six 3-person chainsaw strike teams to help with debris clearing and removal arrived in Saint Stephens, Mississippi, the remaining 9 members will arrive September 8
- **VDH**
 - The Virginia Beach Medical Reserve Corps (VBMRC) has deployed 5 volunteers to Montgomery, AL (to be further deployed)

- VBMRC working locally with Red Cross Chapter to support to evacuees arriving in the area by providing medical screenings at the Red Cross
- Two Registered Nurses from Chesapeake MRC have deployed – one to Montgomery, Alabama for further assignment and the other to Baton Rouge, Louisiana. 2 other registered nurses and one doctor are awaiting assignment. All are coordinated through the American Red Cross
- VDH Public Information Officer scheduled to deploy to Texas on September 8 in support of FEMA
- Va. Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT)-1, 12 personnel deployed on 5 missions and 32 standing by for immediate deployment.
- Continuing organization of public health response teams for deployment to the Gulf Coast. Collected over 100 VDH Agency Volunteer names to date
- **VNG**
 - 151 of 225 National Guard personnel arrived in Jackson, Mississippi by plan September 6. The remaining 74 guardsmen will arrive by convoy September 8
 - 154 guardsmen and 30 airmen, mainly military police, arrived on September 5 in Alexandria, Louisiana. The guardsmen have been attached to the 35th Infantry Division and are now station at the Belle Chase Naval Air Station in Louisiana
 - Deployed 6 guardsmen with the 203rd Red Horse unit to the Belle Chase Naval Air Station in Louisiana
- **VSP**
 - Deployed VSP helicopter equipped with a hoist, staffed by two pilots now performing rescue missions in New Orleans and Baton Rouge as well as providing restocking supplies
 - 100 Trooper Law Enforcement Task Force with a communication vehicle headed for Mississippi is on hold, per Mississippi request
- **VITA**
 - EMAC Request Summary information is posted on the On-Line EOC. Any On-Line EOC access issues should be directed to VITA Customer Care at 1-866-637-8482
 - Providing communications infrastructure assistance at Ft. Pickett to support the evacuee operation. Two coordinators as well as support personnel have been assigned, and will handle the equipment setup, guidance and telecommunications
- **VDSS**
 - Assessing Fort Pickett building layout for state services and benefits
 - Developing a staffing pattern for operations at Fort Pickett
 - Directing local offices to refer evacuees to local chapter of American Red Cross (ARC) and provide FEMA teleregistration number. After screening by ARC, DSS will process evacuees into appropriate program
 - DSS provided guidelines to localities for providing assistance to evacuees
 - DSS Hotline – 1-800-777-8293 – For Faith Based Groups to offer temporary housing for evacuees – 81 organizations are in the database
 - 176 State and Local Social Services employees are in the database to serve either one week in Virginia or two weeks in the impacted region if called upon
- **VDFF**
 - Staffing to assist in EMAC and Legislative Affairs in VEOC
- **SCHEV**
 - Provided a link for displaced students that offers information on colleges and universities throughout the Commonwealth accepting enrollment - <http://www.schev.edu/Students/ResponseToKatrina.asp>

- **VDACS**
 - Continue to track consumer reports of alleged gasoline price gouging and half-pricing through its number 1-800-552-9963

LOCAL ACTIONS:

- Identifying resources for possible deployment to impact areas
- Monitoring fuel supply
- Managing arrival of evacuees in the localities

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

- American Red Cross has **643 open cases** and assisted **1,369 individuals**. The largest concentrations of evacuees are in Hampton Roads, Norfolk/Virginia Beach, Fredericksburg and Richmond Virginia Public Inquiry Center (VPIC) is open to answer questions and field concerns from citizens. The VPIC telephone number is **866-880-4288**, hours of operation this week – 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. 102 calls reported for September 7. A total of 334 calls reported since VPIC opened on September 2
- FEMA has set up a Donations Hotline at **800-440-6728**
- Only 3 evacuees have reportedly registered with a current Virginia address through FEMA Teleregistrations. No data has been available from FEMA for the past two days
- The Department of Health and Human Services has established a website (<https://volunteer.hhs.gov>) and toll-free number (1-866-KAT-MEDI) to help identify private sector health care professionals and relief personnel to assist in Hurricane Katrina relief efforts
- The two USAR Task Forces VATF – 1 (Fairfax) and VATF – 2 (Virginia Beach), have returned to Virginia
- Virginia Wing of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) is preparing to be tasked by 1st Air Force and FEMA to be activated for operations in the Gulf Coast area
- Responded to Delegate Plum's inquiry concerning constituent offer of multi-family housing in Northern Virginia. Constituent's offer referred to DSS and VPIC. Continuing to disseminate information to state legislators and Virginia's Congressional delegation.
- Public Affairs handled several media inquiries on the Commonwealth's response. Developed communication plan for the arrival of evacuees and coordinated with Governor's Office. Preparing to establish a Joint Information Center (JIC) at Ft. Pickett. Updated www.vaemergency.com with the latest information.

PROJECTED FUTURE ACTIONS:

- Conference calls with localities - Schedule to be provided separately
- Continue to monitor fuel supply. Localities will advise VEOC of difficulties.
- Coordinate state relief efforts
- Process EMAC requests
- Continue to monitor evacuee situation with emphasis on Fort Pickett effort
- Track mission assignments to state agencies for response actions
- Implement external communications plan

Prepared by: Ted Costin
 Authority of Michael Cline, State Coordinator
 /s/ Harry Colestock, Operations Director